UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/788,613	02/27/2004	Robert Paul Morris	I223/US	6484

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EXAMINER
KANG, PAUL H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>10 December 2007</u>.
2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-48</u> is/are pending in the application.
    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-48</u> is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>27 February 2004</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 1-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Edlund et al.,

US Pat. No. 6,484,162 B1, in view of Das et al., US Patent Application Publication No.

2005/0111737 A1.

3.   As to claims 1, 16, 31, 46, 47 and 48, Edlund teaches a computer-implemented

method, a computer readable medium, and system for providing links to one or more

resources related to a specified resource comprising:

allowing for specifying a resource for which a relation is to be configured (the user

selects a specified resource such as a stored search query; Edlund, col. 9, line 66 – col. 10,

line 8);

a resource management system for selecting a specified resource and allowing for

configuring a relation comprising a matching criteria for the resource (Edlund, col. 6, line 58

– col. 7, line 24; col. 9, lines 1-49 and col. 9, line 66 – col. 10, line 8);

means for associating the relation to the specified resource (a new search query is created based on a retrieved search query; Edlund, col. 8, line 52 – col. 9, line 65 and col. 10, line 25 – col. 11, line 5);

means for storing the relation associated with the specified resource in a relation database coupled to the resource management system (the search queries are stored in a query database; Edlund, col. 9, lines 1-65);

a search engine coupled to the resource management system for processing the relation to create a relation set comprising the links to the one or more related resources satisfying the matching criteria (Edlund, col. 9, line 66 – col. 10, line 22); and

means for displaying the relation set to the user (Edlund, col. 7, line 25 – col. 8, line 16).

However, Edlund does not explicitly teach that the resource is a distinct, categorizable object associated with a resource type and stored in a data store, such as an image resource comprising an image object and a photo album object, and further wherein the method, medium and system comprise providing for presenting a visual representation of the media resource and a selectable visual representation of the relation for accessing a link included in the relation set. In Edlund, search queries are associated with objects on the network and stored for later retrieval and use to generate new, related search queries for like objects on the network.

In the same field of endeavor, Das teaches a system and method for permitting a user to search for related content items like a selected content item wherein the content item, i.e. resource is a distinct, categorizable object associated with a resource type and stored in a data

store, such as an image resource comprising an image object and a photo album object, and

further wherein the method, medium and system comprise providing for presenting a visual

representation of the media resource and a selectable visual representation of the relation for

accessing a link included in the relation set (Das provides for online access of photo albums,

wherein images and albums are grouped by various categories, e.g. event or people, etc.; Das,

¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025) .

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have incorporated the known technique of searching for similar web

content, as taught by Das, into the system of Edlund since using the known technique of

specifying a distinct, categorizable object associated with a resource type and stored in a data

store would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art as it would yield a predictable

result of categorizing and accessing images.

4.   As to claims 2, 17 and 32, Edlund-Das teaches a user interface coupled to the resource

management system for allowing the user to select a resource type to be returned, wherein, the

resource management system includes means for receiving the user's selection and a relation

engine for retrieving from the relation database a template corresponding to the resource type,

wherein the template comprises a plurality of parameters associated with the corresponding

resource type (Edlund, col. 8, line 52 – col. 9, line 65; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025).

5.   As to claims 3, 18, 33, 34, and 35, Edlund-Das teaches the computer-implemented

method, computer readable medium, and system wherein the resource management system

further includes means for allowing the user to create the matching criteria utilizing the plurality of parameters via the user interface, wherein the one or more related resources satisfy the matching criteria (Edlund, col. 6, line 58 – col. 7, line 67 and col. 8, line 52 – col. 9, line 65; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025);

wherein the relation engine automatically retrieves and displays any previously defined relation for the resource in response to the user selecting the resource to be configured (Edlund, col. 10, lines 25-62);

wherein the resource management system includes means for allowing the user to select a previously defined relation and allowing the user to update the matching criteria in the previously defined relation selected (Edlund, col. 10, lines 25-62; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025).

6.   As to claims 4, 19 and 36, Edlund-Das teaches the computer-implemented method, computer readable medium, and system wherein the relation further comprises a context constraint that imposes conditions not related to the matching criteria (Edlund, col. 8, line 52 – col. 9, line 65; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025).

7.   As to claims 5, 20 and 37, Edlund-Das teaches the computer-implemented method, computer readable medium, and system wherein the relation engine automatically retrieves from the relation database a context template comprising a plurality of context parameters and the resource management system includes means for allowing the user to create or update the context constraint utilizing the plurality of context parameters (Edlund, col. 6, line 58 – col. 7,

line 67 and col. 8, line 52 – col. 9, line 65; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025).

8.   As to claims 6 and 21, Edlund-Das teaches the computer-implemented method and

computer readable medium comprising storing the relation after it has been associated with

the resource (Edlund, col. 9, lines 1-65; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025).

9.   As to claims 7, 22 and 38, Edlund-Das teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system wherein the resource management system includes

means for receiving the user's request to access the resource, and wherein the relation engine, in

response to such a request, automatically retrieves the relation associated with the resource

(Edlund, col. 6, line 58 – col. 7, line 67; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025).

10.   As to claim 39, Edlund-Das teaches the computer-implemented method, computer

readable medium, and system wherein the resource management system includes means for

passing the matching criteria associated with the relation to the search engine for execution

(Edlund, col. 6, line 58 – col. 7, line 67; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025).

11.   As to claims 8, 23 and 40, Edlund-Das teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system wherein the search engine includes means for locating

the one or more related resources satisfying the matching criteria and means for collecting links

for the one or more related resources to create the relation set (Edlund, col. 6, line 58 – col. 7,

line 67 and col. 8, line 52 – col. 9, line 65; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025).

12.   As to claims 9, 24 and 41, Edlund-Das teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system wherein the relation further comprises a context

constraint that imposes one or more conditions not related to the matching criteria, wherein the

one or more conditions includes a security criteria (Edlund, col. 8, lines 17-49 and col. 11,

liens 6-29; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025).

13.   As to claims 10, 25 and 42, Edlund-Das teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system wherein the resource management system includes

means for examining the security criteria prior to passing the matching criteria to the search

engine to determine whether the user is authorized to submit the relation and means for returning

an error message to the user if the user is not authorized (Edlund, col. 8, lines 17-49 and col. 11,

liens 6-29; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025).

14.   As to claims 11, 12, 13, 26, 27, 28 and 43, Edlund-Das teaches the computer-

implemented method, computer readable medium, and system wherein the resource

management system includes means for examining the context constraint to determine whether

the relation is executable upon request and means for instructing the relation engine retrieve a

relation set most recently created if the relation is not executable upon request or if executable

collecting links for the one or more related resources to create the relation set (Edlund, col. 8,

lines 17-49 and col. 11, liens 6-29).

15.   As to claims 14, 29 and 44, Edlund-Das teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system wherein in response to the user's request to access the

resource, the resource management system displays the relation associated with the resource

via the user interface and wherein the resource management system further includes means for

allowing the user to select the displayed relation, means for allowing the user to define one or

more narrowing constraints, means for appending the one or more narrowing constraints to the

matching criteria to form a modified matching criteria, and means for passing the modified

matching criteria to the search engine for execution (Edlund, col. 6, line 58 – col. 7, line 67

and col. 8, line 52 – col. 9, line 65; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025).

16.   As to claims 15, 30 and 45, Edlund-Das teaches the computer-implemented method,

computer readable medium, and system further comprising means for allowing the user to

utilize the links in the relation set to navigate from the specified resource to the one or more

resources satisfying the matching criteria (Edlund, col. 3, lines 33-54 and col. 6, line 58 – col.

7, line 67; Das, ¶¶ 0009-0010, 0024, 0025).

Response to Arguments

17.   Applicant's arguments filed July 18, 2007 have been fully considered but they are

deemed moot in view of the new grounds of rejection. The applicants argued in substance that

the prior art failed to teach or suggest the newly added limitations regarding visual

representations of the media resource and the relation. The new grounds of rejection teaches

these features.

Conclusion

18.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

19.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Paul H. Kang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3882. The

examiner can normally be reached on 9 hour flex. First Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, William Vaughn can be reached on (571) 272-3922. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Paul H. Kang/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2144